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Where Are You Going?

Esther Breckenridge

Iowa State College

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WHERE

*The Old Jackson Hole Road in
Grand Teton National Park*



ARE YOU GOING?

by *Esther Breckenridge*

Applied Art Graduate

Miss Breckenridge is well qualified to write upon this subject, having been president of YWCA, vice-president of Mortar Board, and a member of Omicron Nu, Phi Upsilon Omicron and Phi Kappa Phi.

ONE HAS only to read a current newspaper or magazine or observe the average person today to sense the uncertainty, insecurity and lack of direction in our nation and its people.

College students may appear to be extremely poised and confident, but according to a survey taken last year of students in colleges across the country, one of their greatest needs was for personal direction and security. "We are lost," writes one mid-Western campus group. "We don't know where we're going."

Easy Drifting

Drifting through life is an easy thing to do — just living for the moment. With the future so uncertain times call for even more integration of personality.

Help can be obtained from outsiders in developing a philosophy of life, but the first and most important step is wanting to develop one. It is one of those inner parts of life that cannot be imposed upon a person by others but must develop from his own desire and thought.

Developing a philosophy or goal for life is similar to the process of climbing a mountain. The destination is the top of the mountain or the goal for life. Each rock and fallen tree along the way is to be negotiated just as each decision, experience and act must be considered as contributing to a well-thought-out unity or whole of life. Having set your sights on the top, it is possible to find the way through many trees. From a position part way up the mountain you can look back over the part already climbed with perspective and forward toward the goal with more clarity.

Goals Important

Sometimes you may find that the destination sought after is only the false top of the mountain and upon reaching that, the real summit can be seen. Then directions must be reset to attain the ultimate goal. The important thing is that there *was* a goal in mind, that organization and direction were evident in the

trip. Without these it does not take long to become lost and to expend all energies in traveling in useless circles.

In life it is quite possible to change your philosophy as you mature and develop new values. If you write down your philosophy in black and white, you should not expect to have it remain the same throughout life, for as more perspective is gained through experiences, new ideas and desires will take shape.

It is most important that college students earnestly seek direction for their lives. In the first few years away from home there are many influences that come along to play a part in their lives. If there is no goal, what basis can there be for making decisions about what activities to enter, how to act on a date, how to spend the all-too-few-hours of college life? What basis can there be for finding significant meaning in a great variety of experiences? Does a college student's personality emerge on graduation day a jumble of insignificant fragments, or as a strong, competent, secure personality ready to face life and its uncertainties and pitfalls with self-assurance and faith?

Books Available

Many excellent books by competent men of all time are available which will be helpful in deciding what is important in the individual's life, and in developing an appreciation for society and the universe. Most colleges and universities offer courses on philosophy and religion.

Organizations Help

On most campuses there are student organizations such as church groups and the YWCA that are interested in helping students to find a deeper significance in life.

You are the person who can do the most in forming your own philosophy of life. You must make up your mind that it is important to you and then be willing to spend the time in reading and thinking out your goals.